



5749

Tashlich 5748. Photo by Amy Blasenheimer.

## Preparing for the New Year

**S**ha'ar Zahav is preparing for the largest number of worshippers ever to attend our High Holiday services.

Last year, during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur evening services, we regrettably had to turn some people away. This year, in addition to the large sanctuary at the Unitarian Center at Franklin and Geary, we have reserved additional space at the Unitarian Center to accommodate overflow crowds. The sound from the main sanctuary will be piped into the overflow room and ushers will be present throughout the services.

All members are urged to arrive at least 30 minutes before services in order to assure seating in the main sanctuary. Members will be asked for their mem-

bership cards for admission to membership seating for themselves and their guests.

The Unitarian Center is wheelchair accessible, but has extremely limited handicapped parking on the street. Please notify the synagogue office if you will need assistance in entering through the special wheelchair entrance. Sign language interpretation can be provided if you will contact the synagogue office by Friday, September 2 for Rosh Hashanah and by Friday, September 9 for Yom Kippur.

The Children's Haverah and Ritual Committee will once again offer children's High Holiday services at the Unitarian Center. On Rosh Hashanah,

the service will begin at 12:15 pm in the childcare room and will end about the same time as the adult service. This will allow everyone to join us later at Fort Point for a *seudat mitzvah* and *tashlich*. On Yom Kippur, the service will begin after the adult service at 1:30 pm in the main sanctuary.

*Seudat mitzvah*, the festival picnic at Fort Point, will begin our afternoon event following Rosh Hashanah Musaf services. At 3:30, once everyone has had a chance to gather and picnic together, we will have *Tashlich* services: the ritual casting away of sins into the water. Bring your own picnic; we'll provide the crumbs.

(Continued on page 3)

## Anti-Spirituality in the Lesbian & Gay Community

On July 18, I attended a cocktail party given by Dignity, the gay and lesbian Roman Catholic group, for leaders of San Francisco lesbian and gay religious congregations. About 15 of us schmoozed and shared our experiences within the lesbian and gay and religious communities.

I found that we had a lot in common. We're all concerned about our members—are we meeting their needs? Do we know what their needs are? And how can we communicate better? We were all concerned about the impact of AIDS on our members and resources. We all have growth concerns, too.

Our similar concerns did not end there. We all voiced frustration with the lesbian and gay community, agreeing that overall, it is strongly anti-spiritual, and has little interest in changing. Few

nations to the AIDS Foundation Food Bank, hunger programs and the willingness to debate hate-mongers such as Jerry Falwell. But, while reporting on our individual achievements, the gay and lesbian community ignores the fact that we are religious groups, sees organized religion only as being the religious right-wing, and then either views us as nothing more than social clubs, or accuses us of buying into the homophobia of the religious right-wing.

What do I mean? Until about a year ago, all traditional religious groups marching in the San Francisco Freedom Day Parade were positioned near the end. Sha'ar Zahav, Integrity, MCC, etc. came like an afterthought—and an embarrassment. I liked our being together; it showed strength and unity. But by placing us near bar floats, I believe the organizers made a statement about how they see us within the lesbian and gay community.

Here's another example: a few years back, the Castro Street Fair was scheduled for one of the high holy days. We phoned the organizers and were told that they were sorry, but that it was too late to move. The next year we sent them the high holy day dates in advance; nonetheless, the fair was on the second day of Rosh Hashanah. I won't accuse the organizers of out-and-out anti-Semitism, but I'd say their insensitivity and ignorance reflects a larger community problem and justifies our refusal to participate.

Is there anything we can do about this? I think so. It is our obligation as lesbian and gay Jews, no matter how religious, to educate the gay and lesbian community about our being gay and lesbian in the Jewish community and being spiritual in the lesbian and gay community. The next time you're asked how you live in both worlds, answer

that the national reform Jewish organization has gay people in its leadership, gay panels at its national conventions, has adopted a resolution supporting the full participation of lesbians and gay men in all Reform congregations, and has created model AIDS outreach programs within the Jewish community.

But more importantly, answer that to be a spiritual and religious person doesn't mean that you're a Jerry Falwell follower. Rather, it's a commitment to *tzedakah*, from *tzedek* meaning justice—from Deut. 16:20, "Justice, justice, you shall follow, so that you may inherit the land which God has given you."

—Robin Leonard, President



Photo by Amy Blasenheimer.

people within it try to understand why we survive—even flourish—within religious communities that have historically viewed us as sick, sinful, immoral and even evil.

I certainly understand why it is "politically correct" to be anti-religion. Organized religion is the source of much anti-gay hatred, and has alienated most spiritual lesbians and gay men. But I find the short-sightedness and ignorance of the gay and lesbian community frightening. It will acknowledge the contributions of various religious groups—do-

### Classified Ads

THE URGE TO MERGE: INTIMACY AND COMMUNICATION. A workshop for lesbians, Sunday, November 6, 11-4. Call Nanci Stern, M.A., 863-5081 or Wendy Moser, M.A., 526-8876.

"GEY GESUND" HOUSESITTING: While you're away—relax. We'll take good care of your home, plants, pets, etc. Longer stays (one month plus) preferred. Shorter stays considered. Call Leila during office hours: 268-7037.

**The Jewish Gaily Forward** is published 11 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are co-chairs Alita Rosenfeld & Howard Blechman, Stephanie Hannaford, Garry Koenigsberg, Henry Mach, David Shaber, Steve Polsky and David Stein (general editorial and production), Amy Blasenheimer (photos), Frank Hyman, Alex Ingersoll, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Pagesetter Typography and printed by Lou Greene.

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

## New Year (Continued from page 1)

Second day Rosh Hashanah will be observed in our own sanctuary at 220 Danvers, and will include evening as well as daytime services. In the past few years, these services have been unique in their solemn yet informal nature. Many people are drawn by the chance to pray with a smaller congregation, which adds even more of a "haimish" feel to our beautiful holiday services. See the High Holiday calendar in this issue for all details.

Rabbi Kahn, with the assistance of the ritual committee, will lead a service of t'shuva and healing on the afternoon of Shabbat Shuvah—the sabbath between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, September 17. The original liturgy for this service, prepared by Rabbi Kahn, draws on traditional and modern Jewish texts and prayers about illness, healing and prayer. Everyone is welcome at this experiential and experimental service on Saturday afternoon, September 17, at 4 pm in the synagogue.

**AIDS Food Drive:** One of the reasons for fasting on Yom Kippur is to remind ourselves of the hunger of those in need. As we have for the last two years, CSZ will collect non-perishable food for the AIDS Food Bank at our Kol Nidre service. Consider what you spend daily on food or for a restaurant meal; your purchase of groceries for someone else should make your own fast easier and more meaningful.

**Volunteers Needed:** We need volunteers for oneg preparation, child care, ushering, set-up and break-down. If you would like to help out, please call either Allen at 285-3577 or Jonathan at 552-1960.

**Macrobiotic Break-Fast:** A table will be provided where vegetarians may bring food for their break-fast at the Unitarian Center following Yom Kippur services. Call Keith Barton for details at 428-1641.

**Kever Avot:** The traditional visitation to the graves of loved ones during the High Holiday period is being observed this year on Sunday, September 11 at 10:30 am. We will be gathering at Hills of Eternity Cemetery in Colma to visit the grave of our past president Cheryl Orvis. Directions to the cemetery will be available on the rear table in the sanctuary.

**High Holidays Child Care:** Child care will be available for High Holiday services at the Unitarian Center. Please note that there are two changes this year:

*Space is limited.* Reservations must be made no later than Friday, September 9.

*Donations are requested.* Members fee per child: per day service, \$3; per evening service, \$6; all four services, \$10. Non-members fee per child: per day service, \$4; per evening service, \$8; all four services, \$12. Please add \$2 for each additional child.

In keeping with the philosophy of CSZ no one will be turned away for lack of funds; however, you may be asked to contribute in other ways to help defray the cost of childcare.

Reserve now by calling the office to guarantee space. Those without reservations will be accommodated on a space available, first come, first serve basis on the day of the service.

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members and friends in July and August. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Dennis Bates

Karen Commanday

Joan Lefkowitz & Stacy Shuster

Gordon MacGinitie

Jay Platt

Lane Schickler

Marvin Steele & Rudolf Bean

Larry Wexler

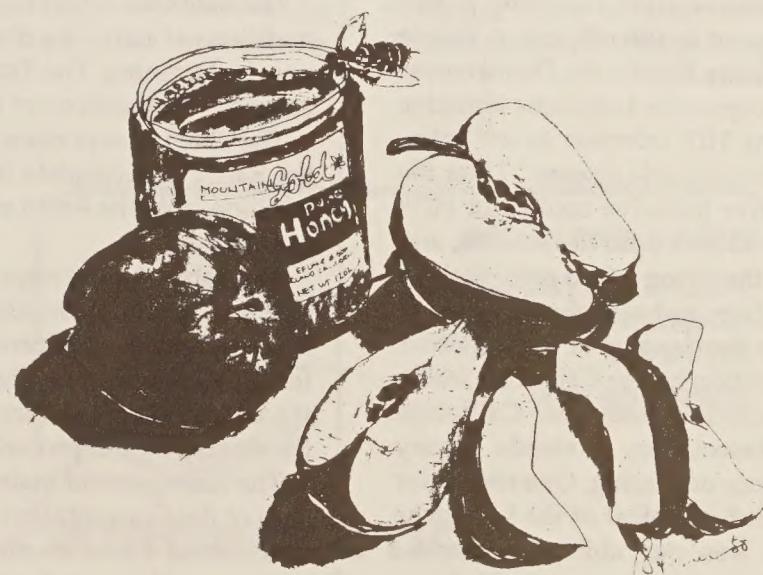
New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.

## Bob Goldware Retires

This issue of the *Forward* is the first in over four years to be produced without the guidance of Bob Goldware. While we wish him well in his other ventures, his expertise, as well as his charm and his humor, will be sorely missed. Bob has been an integral part of the growth, change and stabilization of the *Forward*.

Thanks, Bob, for giving four years of yourself to the *Forward* and to us.

—The Newsletter Committee



## What If It Should Pass?

While I would rather devote this column to the themes of the High Holidays, the urgency of defeating the Dannemeyer AIDS Initiative (Prop. 102) takes precedence. The following is adapted from an open letter by Ben Schatz, director of the AIDS Civil Rights Project of the National Gay Rights Advocates:

*July 4, 1989: You have just been fired from your job for testing HIV-antibody positive. When you get home you learn that you are being prosecuted because you did not turn in your sexual partner's names and addresses within a week of learning your results.*

Unless we take immediate action, California could pass an AIDS initiative this November which is far more dangerous than anything proposed by Lyndon LaRouche—perhaps the greatest political and public health threat to people with AIDS and HIV infection that California has ever seen.

The Dannemeyer AIDS initiative would eliminate all anonymous testing in California. It would wipe out the law that keeps employers from forcing you to take the AIDS antibody test. It would allow insurers to test applicants for HIV. And it would allow testing without written consent.

Any doctor or blood bank that believes you are HIV-positive must turn in your name to the health department within 48 hours. And if you test positive you must turn in the names and addresses of all your sexual partners within seven days. If you don't, you will be guilty of a crime.

The initiative gives sweeping power to doctors and health officials to violate confidentiality. Finally, the Dannemeyer initiative copies the LaRouche initiative by defining HIV infection as an "infectious, communicable disease." Thus, the Dannemeyer initiative could ban HIV-infected children from the schools, and result in the firing of all sero-positive food handlers and school employees.

Despite the dangers of the initiative, and opposition by the California Medical Association and the California Nurses Association, it stands a very good chance of passing. One reason for the resounding defeat of the LaRouche initiative was our ability to dismiss LaRouche as an extremist. Unfortunately, Congressman Dannemeyer,

while just as extreme as LaRouche, appears more "respectable" because of his office. His position as a well-connected Republican congressman gives him access to large sums of money, and may make it more difficult for Republican politicians who opposed the LaRouche initiative to oppose this one as well.

And then there is us. We are preoccupied with our own health, the health of people we love, and with other political battles. We are sick of fighting for treatments and education while extremist politicians engage in obscene attempts to exploit the AIDS crisis for political gain. We feel frightened and overwhelmed. And that is exactly what the Dannemeyers and LaRouches of this world want.

All of our lives have been permanently and irrevocably changed as a result of the AIDS crisis. And while AIDS has brought out the best in many people, it has brought out the worst in others.

Even if we defeat this initiative, we will face more battles, and then more. And as more of us become ill, those of us who are healthy will have to work harder. For the easier prey we become, the more opportunists will arise to prey upon us.

Like you, I don't have the time. Like you, I don't have the money. Like you, I don't have the energy. And, like you, I don't have the choice.

In the East Bay, contact the United AIDS Initiative Campaign, 863-3624. In San Francisco, call Mobilization Against AIDS, 863-4676.

## Anniversaries

15	Sanford Friedman & Jerome Hippis
19	Richard Inlander & Ben Schalit
23	Marion Trentman & Betty Kalis
30	Blanche Blachman & Adrienne Forshay

### Policy of Rabbi's Relationship with the Congregation

The Rabbi is the Congregation's chosen spiritual leader, called to minister to the religious, pastoral, and communal needs of the membership. While in a legal sense the Rabbi is an employee of the Congregation, the Rabbi is more than a professional staff person.

The Rabbi is the final arbiter of all ritual matters, including the use of the pulpit, service content, and all other matters related to the Congregation's religious and spiritual practices. Recognizing the special contributions of the Ritual Committee, including its creativity, diversity, and experience, the Rabbi usually shall seek input from the Ritual Committee in decision making.

The Rabbi has a duty to uphold and advance the Congregation's programs and traditions of active lay ritual involvement, particularly in leadership, participation, and training. The Ritual Committee shall defer to the Rabbi's expertise and authority in questions of ritual.

The Rabbi always enjoys complete freedom of the pulpit. By this we mean that the Rabbi has complete freedom of speech while speaking from the pulpit. In addition, only the Rabbi may invite another rabbi or guest speaker to occupy the pulpit.

The Rabbi shall be responsible for life-cycle observances of congregants. Courtesy and practical considerations require that the Rabbi shall determine rituals and procedures which are to be used at these functions. The Rabbi shall officiate in accordance with his/her convictions and with due regard for the customs of the Congregation. Others in the Congregation shall officiate in conformity with the standards and procedures set by the Rabbi.

The Rabbi should maintain a good working relationship with the lay leadership of the Congregation. Experience has demonstrated that a Congregation is best served when its rabbinic and lay leadership consider themselves to be partners in the sacred work of the Synagogue.

## Focus on Israel

A group of Sha'ar Zahav members have met several times at the synagogue over the past few weeks to discuss Israel. The impetus to form a discussion group initially came from the concerns we shared about the current Palestinian Arab uprising and its implications for both Israeli and Diaspora Jews. Several Sha'ar Zahav members have recently returned from Israel. Gail Friedlander and Ron Lezell organized the group in order to hear other fresh and enthusiastic observations.

The group of people who came together had diverse backgrounds and ties to Israel, ranging from Israeli citizens to those who have yet to visit the country. The knowledge in the group covered everything from the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict to the current political profile. This led in turn to a discussion of what might change as a result of the upcoming Israeli elections.

We also shared in very heartfelt ways our fears about the uprising and its possible consequences, and the moral and spiritual concerns that have been raised for us. While we didn't always agree, we talked and listened with a thoughtfulness and mutual respect that enabled us to openly discuss issues of serious concern and importance.

Synagogue activities and events, be they in the realms of worship, education, recreation or fundraising, seldom include any mention of, or focus on, Israel. This is something that distinguishes us from most other congregations, and something which those of us who attended this group would like very much to change.

Ron and Gail worked with the Education Committee to set up a course for the fall semester of classes (see related article in this issue). The focus of the class will be the current uprising, but our dreams go far beyond that. We would like to see Israel incorporated into our congregational life through future classes and events, a Haverah, perhaps even a congregational trip to Israel. What we would like most is for Sha'ar Zahav members and friends to be thinking about Israel—what you would like to learn about the nation, its history and its people, what you feel your relationship to it is (or what you would like it to be), and how you would like to see Israel incorporated into life at Sha'ar Zahav.

Please talk about this—among yourselves, to us, to the leaders of the congregation, to the rabbi, to the Education Committee. We'll find ways to bring Israel closer to our lives once we start talking.

## Oneg Sponsors

During June & July onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 6/3 Lee Ryan, in honor of Robin Leonard on the occasion of her installation as president of CSZ
- 6/24 Robin Leonard & Lee Ryan, Alita Rosenfeld & Kate Sharp, Susan Unger & Rhonda Bolden in honor of their respective anniversaries.
- 7/1 Jonathan Funk & John Arnold, in honor of the visit of Jonathan's parents
- 7/15 David Shaber, in honor of Joseph and Shookfi Shaber and the blessing of the birth of their daughter, Alexina, and in honor of the 11th anniversary of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 7/29 Marty Carls, in honor of his son, Jason Carls, on the occasion of his bar mitzvah

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

## Why Social Action?

Because we are continually barraged by social issues which cry out for us to take action. Some have direct impact—gay and lesbian rights, the epidemic, AIDS discrimination, sexism, Israel and the Palestinians, anti-Semitism. Others, like the plight of Central American refugees, poverty or racism, tug at our conscience because of similarities to our own struggles, or perhaps simply because of our sense of justice. Often we see an overwhelming need to do something, but feel frustrated that our individual voices are too small to make a difference.

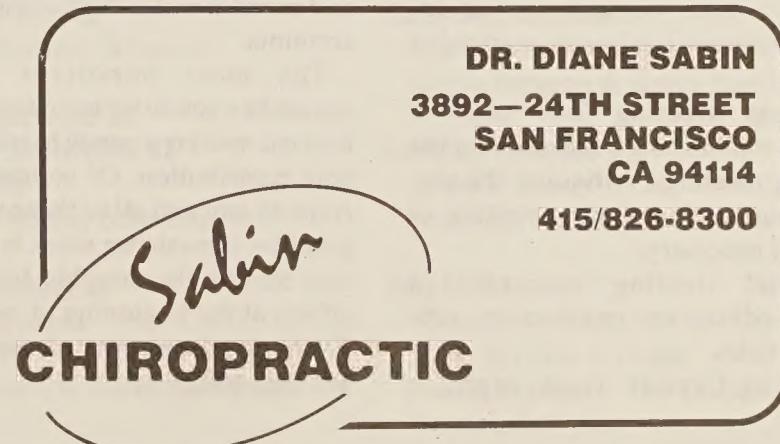
Through the Social Action Committee, CSZ provides us with a way to pool our energies and share our concerns. One reason many of us have joined Sha'ar Zahav is its leadership role in the area of social activism in the lesbian/gay & Jewish community. We are known for having both a social conscience and a strong, effective voice.

If you are one of the many who are interested in social action, now is the time to come forward. The Social Action Committee needs your input and your energy. We have a lot of work to do: the struggle against the discriminatory AIDS initiatives of Dannemeyer and Doolittle calls for our participation; the issues of conscience in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict forbid us to remain silent; the poverty and discrimination among and around us are too obvious to be ignored. And the list goes on.

Please consider joining our committee. Call the office and let Jonathan Mesinger know of your interest. Our Thursday night meetings are open to all.

—Jonathan Mesinger

**DR. DIANE SABIN**  
**3892—24TH STREET**  
**SAN FRANCISCO**  
**CA 94114**  
**415/826-8300**



## A Roof Over Our Heads

The May 1987 congregational meeting established an annual building fund assessment of \$30 per adult wage earning member. Although there was some disagreement, CSZ operates by majority rule. Therefore, it is one of the responsibilities of being a member in good standing of the synagogue to fulfill this requirement.

In January 1988, members received notices of this assessment. Second notices were mailed in May 1988 to those who did not respond the first time. Still, a substantial number of members have not yet fulfilled their commitment. What does this mean and what impact does it have on our congregation?

Monies collected from this assessment go directly toward three things:

- payment of our mortgage
- repairs of our building
- structural improvements/upgrading of existing space

If we do not receive this assessment from every member, we will not have the funds necessary to pay for the above. It is as simple as that. Members' dues do not cover building related expenses, and there is *no money allocated* for mortgage payments/repairs in our annual budget. Dues payments and other general fund donations pay for rabbi and

staff salaries and benefits, utilities, insurance, office supplies and equipment, etc.

Our building is a great source of pride for us. It is a major symbol of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's strong and vibrant participation in the fabric of the Jewish and lesbian/gay communities of the Bay Area. But in order to stay in our building, we must take financial responsibility for it. Just as we, in our private lives, need to pay our rent or mortgage and maintain the structural integrity of our homes, so must we take responsibility for our synagogue, our Jewish home away from home, and the center of our spiritual life.

As the High Holidays approach, I'd like to ask those of you who have not yet paid your assessment, to please take this time to re-affirm your commitment to the future of our building and our continuing stability as a congregation. By making this contribution, you will be doing your share to keep us together as a congregational family. L'shana tova.

—Eric Keitel, Vice President

P.S. If you are unsure about whether you've paid your 1988 assessment, please call the office at 861-6932 for confirmation.

## Proofreaders, etc. Wanted

As your newsletter begins another year of publishing, we gaze about at our stalwart committee members—all committed, all stalwart—and wonder how all the rest of the congregation can pass up this very exciting part of the CSZ organization!

Perhaps potential volunteers are not aware of how welcome they are and how minimal a time commitment is involved. Our work can be summarized as follows:

**Business Meeting** (one night a month)—establishing a schedule for the following meetings, critiquing the previous issue, and assigning writing of articles, if necessary.

**Editorial Meeting** (one night a month)—editing and proofreading submitted articles.

**Proofing/Layout** (one night a

month)—proofreading typeset copy and laying out the articles, photos, and advertisements for the coming issue.

**Distribution** (one night a month)—inserting freshly printed newsletters into stamped, addressed envelopes, and gossiping about the addressees.

In addition, we need an advertising coordinator to secure new advertisers and monitor and service our advertising accounts.

The most important thing to remember: *you do not need to come to more than one meeting a month* to make a valuable contribution. Of course you may come to any and all of these meetings if you like. Newsletter work is exciting—you receive the tangible fruit of your efforts at the beginning of each month. For more information, please call Howard (821-0332).

## Here a Sukkah, There a Sukkah

This year we'll have more opportunities than ever before to observe the mitzvot of eating in a sukkah and shaking the *lulav* and *etrog*. CSZ will have two sukkah celebrations on Sunday, September 25—one on each side of the bay. At the end of the week, we will observe Sukkot twice during Shabbat in our sanctuary.

In San Francisco, we will have a service and potluck at the home of Allan Gold and Gary Glasser, 424 Central, at 6:45 pm. In Albany, the Children's Havurah is sponsoring a service and potluck at the home of Sue Douglass, 925 Talbot Ave., at 4:00 pm (call 525-5026 for Albany directions). Both events are open to everyone; choose the location most convenient for you.

For either celebration, people who hail from the East Coast should bring a main dish; Midwesterners and Southwesterners should bring a salad or carbohydrate, Northwesterners and Deep Southerners should bring dessert, and people who are lucky enough to have started out in the Bay Area should bring a beverage.

Sukkot will be observed in the synagogue during Shabbat services on Friday evening, September 30, 8:15 pm, and again on Saturday morning, October 1, 10:30 am.



RALPH FRISCHMAN  
DESIGN CONSULTANTS

345 VERNON STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94103  
415 626 9914

# SEPTEMBER

אלול-תשרי

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				19 Elul	1	20
22	4	23	5	24	26	2
			6	25	8	21
				Newsletter Comm. 7:30pm, 1171 Castro	Social Action Comm., 7:30pm	3
29	11	1 Tishri	12	2	27	9
Erev Rosh Hashanah Kever Avot, 10:30am, Hills of Eternity Memorial Park	Rosh Hashanah First Day	Rosh Hashanah Second Day	3	13	Services, 8:15pm	28
		See High Holiday Schedule	14	4	15	10
7	18	8	19	9	5	17
HHD Nursing Home Visits, 11am			Kol Nidre	10	16	
				11	17	
			Yom Kippur	21	22	
				Bikkur Cholim, 7:30pm	12	
					23	13
						24
14	25	15	26	16	28	19
Kaiser Brunch, 10:30am Sukkot Celebration, 925 Talbot, Albany, 4pm; 424 Central, S.F., 6:45pm			27	17	18	30
			Hebrew Class, 7:15pm		Newsletter Mailing, 7:30pm, 11	
			Parashah, 8:45pm		Grandview Terr.	

## Ritual Calendar

### Friday, September 2

Parshat Ki Tavo  
Early Service, 6:15 pm  
Paul Cohen  
Service, 8:15 pm  
Mike Rankin

### Saturday, September 3

S'lichot  
See High Holiday Schedule

### Friday, September 9

Service, 8:15 pm  
Children's Service, 6:30 pm  
Parshat Nitzavim  
Daniel Chesir & Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Sunday, September 11

Monday, September 12

Tuesday, September 13

Rosh Hashanah  
See High Holiday Schedule

### Friday, September 16

Parshat Vayeilech  
Shabbat Shuvah  
Service, 8:15 pm  
Steve Elman, Rabbi Yoel Kahn  
sermon

### Saturday, September 17

Liturgy of T'shuva & Healing for  
Shabbat Shuvah  
See High Holiday Schedule

### Tuesday, September 20

Wednesday, September 21

Yom Kippur  
See High Holiday Schedule

### Friday, September 23

Parshat Ha'azinu  
Service, 8:15 pm  
Aaron Frankel & Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Sunday, September 25

Sukkot  
See High Holiday Schedule

### Friday, September 30

Chol Hamoed Sukkot  
Service, 8:15 pm  
Sue Douglass & Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Saturday, October 1

Chol Hamoed Sukkot, 10:30 am  
Leslie Bergson & Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Sunday, October 2

Simchat Torah  
See High Holiday Schedule

### Friday, October 7

Parshat Bereshit  
Early Service, 6:15 pm  
Aaron Frankel  
Service, 8:15 pm  
Bill Schlichter  
Torah will be read

## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in honor of their fourth anniversary  
**Hal Podgur**, in memory of Mrs. Toby Jackson, mother of Aaron Jackson  
**Lee Morrow**, in memory of Rose Morrow Griffith  
**Robert Cohen**  
**Alex Ingwersoll & David Stein**, in honor of David Glassberg & Tristano Palermino's commitment ceremony  
**Rabbi Richard Sternberger**  
**Alan & Elaine Orvis**, in honor of Rabbi Kahn and in appreciation of the love and caring he showed for Cheryl  
**Sandra Butler**  
**Prudence Carter & Dana Folse**, in honor of their kiddushin  
**Tom Selleck, Tiger Rankin & Mike Rankin**, in celebration of the move of Tabby Hunter & Jean Bellour to San Francisco  
**Tom Yazman**, in appreciation of Rabbi Kahn  
**Don Albert**  
**Ben Schalit**  
**Rabbi Robert Kirschner**, in honor of Rabbi Kahn's work and compassion for people with AIDS  
**Frank Hyman**  
**Ron Wilmot**

### General Fund

**Robin Leonard & Lee Ryan**  
In memory of Rose Stolowitz:  
**Hal Stoll**  
**Al Stolowitz**  
**Valerie Stoll Schwimmer**  
**Marty Carls**, in honor of his son Jason's becoming bar mitzvah  
**Rob Tat**, in honor of Mrs. Leon Varon  
**Victoria Phillips**, in memory of Cheryl Orvis  
**Stephanie Hannaford**, in appreciation of Bob Goldware's four years with the *Forward*  
**Perry Paker**, in memory of his mother, Gussie Paker  
**Jonathan Funk**, in honor of Aaron Cooper & Eric Keitel's anniversary, and in honor of Alex Ingwersoll & David Stein's hospitality  
**Ellin & Allen Albin**, in honor of their first granddaughter, Samantha Joann Albin Kauwar  
**John Arnold**, in honor of Jon Funk's birthday  
**Shelley Spiro**, in honor of Ed Gabay and Jack Leister's anniversary and Ed's recovery; also in honor of Leila & Catherine's anniversary  
**George & Caroline Platt**, in appreciation of CSZ's caring and good work

### Education Fund

**Stephanie Hannaford**, in honor of the marriage of Sharman Yoffie & Alan Sidman

### Prayerbook Fund

**Susan Stahl**, in memory of her grandfather, Isadore Louis

### Bikkur Cholim Fund

In honor of Bernard Pechter:  
**George Olsen**  
**John & Ann Gigouras**  
**David G. Webb**  
**Carol Cohen & Martin Stillman**  
**Peter K. Maier**  
**Naomi Mann**, in appreciation of Bernard Pechter for innumerable kind and thoughtful gestures

### AIDS Fund

**Howard Blechman**, in honor of Bob Goldware's four *Forward* years  
**Ruth & George Feldman**, in memory of their son Mark  
**Mike Rankin**, in honor of Rich Gordon's birthday  
**Anonymous**, gift coupons to Safeway for the AIDS Food Bank

### Building Fund

**Daniel Chesir**  
**Jerry Rosenstein**, in honor of Betty Kalis' birthday  
**Rabbi Yoel Kahn & Dan Bellm**, in honor of their new home  
**Susan Stahl**, in honor of Ann Biderman's leadership of the Women's Havurah

### Torah Fund

**Steve Greenberg**, in memory of Ken Burke's son, Lawrence

## Condolences

We at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav extend our sympathy to the following members who have suffered a recent loss.

To Sharyn Saslafsky on the loss of her friend, Marian Kanas.

To Martha Rossett and Pat Goldman on the loss of their friend, Randy Hansen.

To Isabel Fishman and Mike Rankin on the loss of their friend, Rose Stolowitz.

To Eve Meyer on the loss of her friend, Renato de Leon.

To Perry Paker on the loss of his mother, Gussie Paker.

To Bea and Debbie Lieberman and Ma'ayan Lieberman on the loss of their grandmother and great-grandmother, Rose Levin.

To Don Albert on the loss of his friend, Darryl Fine.

## ATTORNEY

**DAVID R. GELLMAN**  
**Goldstein & Gellman**  
**(415) 621-2966**

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San Francisco

## The First Meeting

On July 11, the new officers and newly constituted Va'ad met for the first time in the 1988-89 year. The meeting followed closely upon the leadership Advance of the previous weekend, and thus commenced with the glow of the Advance experience, which most of the 26 at the meeting had attended.

This was Robin Leonard's first meeting as president, and everyone had to face the task of dealing with nitty-gritty agenda items, rather than the more contemplative topics of the Advance.

The outgoing treasurer, Eric Keitel, presented a very positive year-end report; and Ben Schalit, the incoming treasurer, discussed this year's dues pledge drive.

Committees were busy in June and July, with the Membership Committee holding a new members' potluck, hosted by Allan Berenstein; instituting a buddy policy to help welcome new members; and publishing guidelines for Shabbat greeting and building security. Lane Schickler, Marvin Steele and Rudolf Bean were voted into membership.

The Ritual Committee's report focused on their efforts to broaden their musical expertise: members of the committee have joined the Guild of Temple Musicians, attended a UAHC music seminar and worked with Cantor Barak of Temple Emanu-El. The committee has also established an assistant chair, and Ora Prochovnick is now assisting Steve Greenberg with Ritual Committee matters.

Other upcoming events include the "A Taste of Honey" dance, presented by the Women's Havurah on October 1, and the Western Regional Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews, Columbus Day weekend in Malibu.

A second printing of the cookbook is under way, and Robin Leonard has secured two firms to handle national distribution. After a discussion of the terms, which are very favorable to CSZ, the Va'ad authorized Robin to proceed.

The Va'ad approved new members to two special committees: Ben Schalit, as treasurer, now a member of the Personnel Committee. The Long-Range Planning Committee requested, and the

Va'ad approved, the appointment of Robin Leonard and Eric Keitel, as president and vice-president, to that committee.

The major policy discussion of the evening was the Va'ad's initial look at a redefinition of the rabbi's role in the congregation. After some months of consideration in the Ritual, Personnel and Rabbi Liaison Committees, the question was brought to the Va'ad. After considerable discussion, the Va'ad opted to come to a new policy in stages.

While there was general consensus regarding the fact that Rabbi Kahn's role has clearly evolved and changed positively since he first became our rabbi, there was concern that the Va'ad needed to examine the question in sufficient detail to create new guidelines which would reflect the complexity of current (and future) roles of the rabbi and Ritual Committee. To that end, the Va'ad approved the appointment of a subcommittee charged with presenting the August Va'ad meeting with a set of guidelines delineating this new relationship. At the same time, the Va'ad unanimously reaffirmed both its confidence in Rabbi Kahn and its recognition of his authority as rabbi.

With one meeting under their belts, new and seasoned members of the leadership concluded the meeting with *Oseh Shalom*.

—Alex Ingersoll, Recorder

## Office Notes

Welcome to Leticia Montealegre, our new office secretary. A native of Nicaragua, Leticia has been in San Francisco for two years and is eager to learn all about Sha'ar Zahav.

Office hours will be changing in the next few weeks so keep your eye on the office door or the Friday night announcement sheets for the exact hours.

If you have some time during the week to volunteer, come to the office to answer the busy phones during the High Holidays. It is a good time to browse in the library and a fun way to contribute to the synagogue. If you will be available, call Jenny at the office as soon as possible.

## Provocative Fall Line-Up

Tuesday and Wednesday nights this fall will be filled with exciting, practical, spiritual, ancient and modern learning, as our new season of classes begins.

On Tuesdays join Rabbi Kahn in delving into the mysteries of reading Hebrew, of the study of the weekly Torah portion, and the meaning of Jewish spirituality.

**Beginning Prayerbook Hebrew (7:15 pm):** An intensive and enjoyable beginning Hebrew reading class will begin September 27. Open to those who have never studied Hebrew as well as those wanting to brush up their reading skills, the goal is to be able to read phonetically any text in the prayerbook.

**Parashah (8:45 pm):** A four-week class beginning on September 27 will explore how to study the weekly Torah portion. The *Modern Commentary* will be used and each student will explore a particular *parashah*.

**Jewish Spirituality (8:45 pm):** Beginning October 25 for four weeks, Rabbi Kahn will lead an examination of prayer, meditation, mitzvot, and other resources as sources of a Jewish spiritual life.

On Wednesdays, beginning October 12, there will be a series of five speaker-discussion sessions centering on the topic of Current Israel.

**October 12, History of the Arab/Jewish Conflict**

**October 19, Current Palestinian Uprising I**

**October 26, Current Palestinian Uprising II**

**November 2, Secular/Religious Relationships in Israel**

**November 9, Jewish Identity and the State of Israel**

Each session will begin at 7:30 and will include a presentation of about 30 to 40 minutes, followed by a lengthy question and answer period. Issues will include moral as well as practical issues, those of the gay and lesbian community and those of the women's community.

See the enclosed form for registration and fees. For further information, please contact Bill Goldstein at 793-4283 or call the office.

# Rabbi's Role Redefined

The principal topic at the August 8 Va'ad meeting was consideration of a report from the Va'ad subcommittee appointed in July to come up with a new policy statement delineating Rabbi Kahn's responsibilities, especially regarding his relationship with the Ritual Committee. The committee had worked intensely over the past month to bring the Va'ad a thorough, carefully thought-out statement (see the full text of the policy in the box on page 4).

Briefly, the new policy represents a major step in according our rabbi the level of ritual authority found in most UAHC synagogues, while still pledging a close collaborative relationship between Rabbi Kahn and the Ritual Committee. This represents a major step for Sha'ar Zahav, one not accepted with unanimity, and one unimaginable a few years ago before Rabbi Kahn came to CSZ. The new policy thus represents a real vote of confidence in Rabbi Kahn and in his continuing work within Sha'ar Zahav's unique framework.

Garry Koenigsberg presented his resignation as Va'ad member, which was accepted with regret.

Other business included announcements that Leticia Montealegre has started as office secretary, assisting Jenny Helbraun, and that Enoch Harrison is retiring as our caretaker. A unanimous expression of appreciation for Enoch's long-time service and support was passed.

The Va'ad voted to participate in community observations of the 50th anniversary of Kristallnacht on November 9, with Jose Luis Moscovich coordi-

nating. Also approved was a six-month trial for oneg sponsorships at \$50 (call the office as soon as you think of a reason to sponsor an oneg).

Ben Schalit gave a progress report on our annual dues pledge drive and urges all members to send in their pledge forms as soon as possible.

Other reports included the following: The recent regional UAHC presidents' council featured a model AIDS workshop led by Mike Rankin, Steve Davis, Andy Rose and Rabbi Kahn.

Committees continued to be busy with the Membership Committee presenting seven names; voted in as members and friends were Dennis Bates, Karen Commanday, Joan Lefkowitz and Stacy Shuster, Gordon MacGinitie, Jay Platt and Larry Wexler.

Reports were given on High Holiday preparations from Steve Greenberg, ritual chair, and Jonathan Schwartz, who along with Allen Brandstein has taken over High Holiday coordination.

The August meeting was a complex meeting, and Robin Leonard was complimented on guiding the Va'ad through difficult discussions with care. Please note that because of Rosh Hashanah, the September Va'ad meeting will be held on *Wednesday, September 14*.

—Alex Ingersoll, *Recorder*

## Food Bank

**P**lease, don't forget our brothers and sisters in need. Keep filling the shul's collection baskets with nonperishable food and other household items for the SF AIDS Foundation's residence program.

## **Bikkur Cholim Committee**

## Nursing Home Visits

On September 18 at 11:00 am the Sunday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the Bikkur Cholim Committee will sponsor visits to our friends at Park Board and Care Home and Hillhaven Convalescent Center. While non-Jewish ministers and preachers come around weekly, our program is something special for the Jewish residents and their friends.

We will have a few prayers, a little wine, apples, honey cake, shofar blowing, and songs. And we will sit around and talk for a few minutes. Nothing very complicated. The entire event—to both facilities—takes about two hours in the middle of the day.

Imagine being part of our group—next to a beaming Mr. Pollak and Mrs. Blum—along with Mr. O'Brien, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Niento, and Mrs. Ballistraria—all in yalmulkes making kiddish. Imagine bringing old memories and joys to the sometimes forgotten. We bring something special—and we get something even more special in return.

Everyone is welcome to join us. Our friskier friends have especially requested more women and younger visitors. Please call Arthur Seidman (433-7574) for more information.



## Birthdays

1	Tom Rothgiesser
2	Jeff Friedman
2	Sharon Simma Lieberman
3	Wendy Oberlander
6	Rosalinda del Moral
6	Lee Ryan
7	Al Baum
9	Mark Weisman
9	Jeremy Glen Hoffman
12	Robin Leonard
12	David L. Pierce
14	Kipp Leyser
19	Rob Tat
21	Laurie Radovsky
21	Janine M. Baer
21	Steven Cronenwalt
23	Marianne D. Ades
23	Kenton Hoover
27	Ralph Vissell
28	Catherine Wisniewski
30	Rochelle Glickman

## Kadimah

Kadimah, ("beginning,") our new weekly children's religious school, will open its doors in September. We are the first religious organization with a gay and lesbian outreach to establish a religious school for our children.

In its first year, the school will have two classes: Aleph for children in kindergarten and first grade, and Bet for second and third graders. Rabbi Kahn will serve as principal. Kadimah's goal is to enable our children to understand, appreciate and participate in Jewish life.

We expect Kadimah to be quite different from our own childhood experiences with religious education, and not only in its acceptance of lifestyle diversity. Kadimah will reflect contemporary developments in education, and will encourage active participation and problem solving rather than passive, rote approaches to learning. We will draw from an exciting curriculum developed at Temple Beth Hillel of Richmond, as well as the resources of the UAHC.

Kadimah will meet at the synagogue on Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 10:30, beginning September 17. The Bet class will meet approximately weekly, for a total of 30 sessions. The Aleph class will meet 15 times. Classes will be coordinated with the synagogue's Shabbat children's Services, and with Children's Havurah activities. There will be several opportunities for parents to participate in the program and learn together with their children. Kadimah is open to members children who are entering kindergarten through third grade in September.

The Religious School Committee assists Rabbi Kahn in directing the school; its co-chairs are Ida Kuluk and David Gellman. All members are welcome on the committee; non-parents are strongly encouraged to become involved with the school.

For information on enrollment, tuition and schedules, on volunteering or special activities for older children, call the office.

**MEMBERSHIP**  
feels good

## Western Regional Conference— Register Now!

The World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations has chosen Camp Sholom in the beautiful Malibu hills as the location for its second regional conference. The multifaceted event, which will include workshops, social activities, worship and good food, is scheduled for October 7-9 (Columbus Day Weekend). The camp is located 40 miles northwest of Los Angeles. Pictures of the lovely setting are on a poster in the rear of the sanctuary.

Like the first conference held two years ago at Camp Swig, the purpose of this weekend is to bring gay, lesbian and bisexual Jews together in a supportive and relaxing setting to learn, socialize and exchange ideas. Above all, the weekend is *fun*, and a unique opportunity to meet people from Washington, California and Arizona.

Registration information can be requested by calling the synagogue office or at the information table at High Holidays.

**Round Trip Bus Transportation** may still be available. Seats are on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact the office for current availability information. Final deadline will be September 15. Late conference and bus reservations will be limited, so act now. For additional information contact Don Albert at 641-5113.

## Simchat Torah a la San Francisco

On Simchat Torah we celebrate the completion of the yearly cycle of reading the Torah and then immediately begin the new cycle for the new year. This year, join us for a *maariv* (evening) service and *hakafot* (traditional dancing around the shul with the Torah) at 7:30 pm on Sunday, October 2 in the synagogue. If you haven't danced to Rabbi Kahn's special tape of *hakafot* music, then you've been missing a truly unique San Francisco experience!

## Women's Havurah

### A Taste of Honey Dance

Come dance with us! Jewish women and their women friends are invited to *A Taste of Honey* New Year's Dance on Saturday, October 1 from 8:30 pm to 1:00 am at the Unitarian Center, Franklin and Geary streets in San Francisco. Highlights will include a DJ, many varieties of dance music, noshes and a no-hostess bar. Childcare is available by reservation before September 23.

Advance tickets are on sale until September 15, \$7 CSZ members and \$9 non-members; \$10 and \$15 at the door. For information, tickets or to help, call 861-6932. Sisters, celebrate 5749 and bring your dancin' shoes!

**Volunteers needed:** We are planning some wonderful events in the months to come, and we need your help—to staff our information table at the High Holy Days, with our annual blood drive, and with the *Taste of Honey* Dance. Please call Ann Biderman at 648-5526.

## High Holy Days Blood Drive

The Women's Havurah is sponsoring our High Holy Days Blood Drive this year on Saturday, September 17, from 10:30 to 2:30 pm at the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, 270 Masonic Ave. at Turk. Reservations should be made with Ann Biderman, 648-5526, to set up your time to give.

This is a wonderful mitzvah to start the New Year with! While many gay men cannot donate, many women can; and men can come to provide noshes, juices, and friendly smiles.

Please join us to help supply blood to those in need. If you can't come on the 17th, give at the blood bank whenever you can. (Don't forget to let them know to credit it to our account.)

We are proud of our continuing commitment to help our community in this important drive. We look forward to seeing you there!

# So Ask Aunt Yente

Dear Aunt Yente,

I was very surprised to learn that our synagogue has rented extra space at the High Holidays, mostly to accommodate non-members for whom there is not enough room in the main sanctuary. Where did we ever get the silly idea that it was our job to provide a space at High Holiday services to every Jew in San Francisco?

Annoyed on Anza

Dear Annoyed,

You certainly are right; such a silly idea it is. Where we got it from is, *takke*, where so many of our silly Jewish ideas come from: from Moses, and Isaiah, and the rest of the Torah.

You see, *kinderlach*, our whole religion is based on the silly idea, called *tikkun olum*—the healing of the universe. It is our special foolishness to believe that we are called to take part in the repair of everything. Instead of trying for something manageable, like looking after our own souls or monitoring our own cholesterol levels, so *we* have to come up with a religion that is not satisfied until the whole world is redeemed.

But what, you ask, does all this have to do with people who won't pay dues but still want a place to *davin* come Rosh Hashonoh Yom Kippur? Well, let Aunt Yente ask you back: what are High Holiday services for? If we have them for the wonderful music and the liturgy, or to do what our parents did, or even to fulfill a ritual obligation—so then maybe you're right. These things are a pleasure and a privilege maybe we don't have to spread so much around. Listen, when Aunt Yente makes her brisket, why should she have to cook extra portions for everyone who might show up? (Although, Aunt Yente admits that the last time she did cook a little extra, so that if it should happen that the Mormon Tabernacle Choir would drop by, so she could have made sandwiches.) (But would they like brisket? Maybe she should bake a strudel?)

But although she loves a good brisket (the secret is allspice and *shmaltz*), Aunt Yente thinks that services Rosh Hashonoh Yom Kippur are in a little different category. They are important as a part of our tradition, and for how they make us feel, but they have a more important reason: the one Aunt Yente already mentioned, *Tikkun Olum*. It's no accident that the holidays of repentance

and repair come on the birthday of the world. The world that was created on Rosh Hashonoh is destroyed a little every day, by anger, by hurting, by not caring about "those others." One time a year is a very small chance to try to turn all this around, from destroying back to creating; and the only tools we have to make this happen (according to the prayerbook) are repentance, and praying, and how we treat each other.

So when we take a day together to start repairing the world, *nu*, isn't it plain *siechel* that we want as many people as possible rolling up their sleeves alongside us? If the reason for the services is to get the job done, not just to follow the tradition or enjoy the performance, then we're not handing out a privilege by making space for people; we're just getting more help with the job. It doesn't surprise Aunt Yente one bit that many of those who drift in the back one year are busy helping make the holidays happen the next time around. But even those who don't, so we can still hope they will leave a little more peaceful, a little more thoughtful, with a little more hope. Aunt Yente wants as many people like this around her as she can find, especially the next time the BART gets stuck halfway between Oakland West and the Embarcadero.

Isaiah says that on Yom Kippur, we choose between two fasts: the brisket one, where we pray loudly and enjoy the ceremony, and the real one, the one God has chosen: "When you take the homeless into your own house, and stop hiding from each other's needs, then the healing will come quickly." But Moses said it first: we must treat strangers just as we treat ourselves, because in Egypt, we learned how it felt to be a stranger. Aunt Yente can't think of another shul anywhere where members know better how it feels to be left out, to be a stranger. So maybe that is the answer to your question: we got the silly idea that we would try not to turn anyone away, because we know what it feels like to be turned away.

So your silly Aunt Yente extends her very best wishes to all her *kinderlach*, for a happy, tearful, crowded, useful Rosh Hashonoh Yom Kippur, and hopes that all may be written and sealed into life. (And some maybe even into membership.)

—Aunt Yente

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# High Holidays 5749

## S'lichot

Saturday, September 3, 9:30 pm  
(at Sha'ar Zahav)

## Kever Avot

Sunday, September 11  
Hills of Eternity Memorial Park,  
10:30 am

## First Day Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 11—Maariv, 7:30 pm

Monday, September 12—Shacharit-Musaf, 10 am; Children's Service, 12:15 pm; Seudat Mitzvah after Musaf, Fort Point; Tashlich, 3:30 pm, Fort Point

## Second Day Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 12, 6:30 pm  
Tuesday, September 13, 10 am  
(Both services at Sha'ar Zahav)

## Shabbat Shuvah (Sabbath of Return)

Friday, September 16, 8:15 pm  
Saturday, September 17  
Liturgy of T'shuva & Healing, 4 pm  
(Both services at Sha'ar Zahav)

## Yom Kippur

Tuesday, September 20, Kol Nidre, 7:30 pm  
Wednesday, September 21, Shacharit-Musaf, 10 am; Children's Service, 1:30 pm; Mincha, 3:30 pm; Yizkor-N'ilah, 5:00 pm  
(Break fast to follow)

## Sukkot

Sunday, September 25, Service / Potluck, 925 Talbot in Albany, 4 pm  
Service / Potluck, 424 Central in San Francisco, 6:45 pm  
Friday, September 30, Shabbat / Sukkot service, 8:15 pm  
Saturday, October 1, Shabbat / Sukkot service, 10:30 am  
(Both services at Sha'ar Zahav)

## Simchat Torah

Sunday, October 2, 7:30 pm  
(at Sha'ar Zahav)

All services at the Unitarian Center, Franklin & Geary streets, except as indicated.

## Advance Report

# Long-Range Planning in the Woods

Robin Leonard put her stamp on this year's leadership Advance, the first official event of her presidency, with the entire weekend focused on the theme: "Pathways to Our Future." This represented a departure from previous Advances, where the topics have often been more diverse.

The structure of the discussions served the leadership well. With more than 30 present, many attending their first Advance, what emerged was an in-depth consideration of the current needs and opportunities of the congregation.

Various aspects of long-range planning were examined by the group, at times as a whole in the conference room (or under the redwoods when it got too warm), or in smaller work groups outdoors.

The weekend served to position the leadership for the coming year's work, and greatly assisted the Long-Range Planning Committee in the initial stages of its meetings. Much of the discussion focused on the limited space in our building, and on how best to nurture the community among us. The following action items were defined:

- Explore the feasibility of making changes in the current building space to allow for better multipurpose use of that space. This includes innovations in the use of sanctuary and meeting space, and may include space-sharing with other groups.

- Research the possibilities of acquiring a new building in coming years, including what types of structure are available, estimates of possible costs, and what resources are available for a concerted building campaign.

- To ensure our financial security, proceed with an expansion of our fair-share dues education program.

- Assist our volunteer base by instituting a more formal leadership development program, and by examining the need for changes in the structure and function of committees and chairs, with the possibility of developing a mentor system for chairs.

- Stimulate further involvement in the UAH and WCGLJ.

Far from being a quiet weekend in the woods, people came away with long

lists of new goals, new friends and many deeper understandings, a feeling of mutual respect, and a faith and even deeper commitment to the future of Sha'ar Zahav.

All this really did take place at Wildwood Ranch on the weekend of July 8-10.

—Alex Ingersoll, Recorder

## Naches

To **Tiela Chalmers** for being named VLSP (Volunteer Legal Services Program) Volunteer of the Month for her pro bono legal work on behalf of people with AIDS.

To **Rabbi Sanford Lowe** who received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles. The degree, conferred in May, marks the 25th anniversary of Rabbi Lowe's ordination. Mazel tov!

To **Nanci Stern** for the article about her in the *Jewish Bulletin* of July 29.

## Our Youngest Member

Evan Kuluk, age 6 1/2, has decided to become a full-fledged dues-paying member of Sha'ar Zahav by contributing 1% of his yearly income (allowance) to the shul. (Can you say the same?)

Welcome, Evan!

## Leadership Training Scheduled

Robin Leonard, our president, has announced the scheduling of a leadership training program to meet bi-monthly beginning in October.

Paul Cohen and Ellen Kugler will serve as trainers for the five sessions directed to the needs of new and potential congregational leaders. Topics will include governance, communications and organizational behavior.

Sessions will be held at the synagogue on Sundays. In order to arrange to participate or get additional information, please contact the office, leaving your name and telephone number for Ellen or Paul.



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# Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

220 DANVERS AT CASELLI, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94114

שַׁעַר זָהָב

(415) 861-6932

## Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Officers:

*President, Robin Leonard  
Vice President, Eric Keitel  
Treasurer, Ben Schalit  
Recorder, Alex Ingersoll*

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Don Albert  
Allan Berenstein  
Tiela Chalmers  
Steve Greenberg  
Jose Luis Moscovich  
Alita Rosenfeld  
Jonathan Schwartz  
Dana Vinicoff  
Richard Inlander (ex officio)

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am — check calendar for each month.

### Committee Chairs:

*Bikkur Cholim, Paul Cohen  
Brotherhood, by committee  
Building, Ken Burke  
Bylaws, Richard Inlander  
Cemetery, Richard Inlander  
Cookbook Project, Sanford  
Friedman  
Family Havurah, Sue Douglass  
& Jill Rose  
Education, by committee  
Finance, Don Albert  
Long-Range Planning, Tiela  
Chalmers & Daniel Cheshire  
Membership, Merry Luskin  
Newsletter, Howard Blechman, Alita  
Rosenfeld  
Oneg, Bill Ashley-Dobbin  
Past Presidents Council, Leila Raim  
Personnel, Irene Ogus  
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky  
& Andy Zimmerman  
Religious School, David Gellman,  
Ida Kuluk  
Ritual, Steve Greenberg, assistant  
Ora Prochovnick  
Social Action, Jonathan Mesinger  
Social Program, by committee  
Women's Havurah, Ann Biderman*

### Office Personnel:

*Manager, Jenny Helbraun  
Secretary, Leticia Montealegre*

**Office Hours:** Please call for exact times.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

**Member** Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Liaison) and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Ora Prochovnick, Liaison).

### Yahrzeits

1	Nathan Miller, stepfather of G. Murray Miller	11	(Elul 12) Rose Delroy, mother of David Delroy	21	Edna K. Randall, grandmother of Benjamin Schalit
1	Gus Liebowitz, grandfather of Robin Leonard	11	(Elul 29) Clara Susid Boskoff, grandmother of Jane Graeven	22	Leslie Chapman, grandfather of Joella Hanely
2	Macfarland Reed, grandfather of Jim Dobkins	11	(Elul 29) Doris Fink, friend of Carol Cohen	22	(Tishri 11) Jacob Leiss, father of Walt Leiss
2	(Elul 20) Frances Cohen, sister of Bernard Pechter	12	(Tishri 1) Rose Richshafer, grandmother of Sherie Ann Koshover	22	(Tishri 11) Lena Witt, grand- mother of Sue Witt
3	Nathan Hyman, father of Frank Hyman	13	(Tishri 2) Philip Yanofsky, father of Allen Harris	23	Fannie Stein, mother of David Stein
3	Lee Gierson, father of Ellen Gierson	13	Ida Prengler, grandmother of Ann Biderman	26	Dora Siegel Weinstein, grand- mother of Barry Siegel
4	Abraham Parker, father of Harold Parker	15	Bertha Goldstein, grandmother of Bob Goldware	28	(Tishri 17) Rabbi Ben Marcus, member of the congregation
9	Meyer Hirst, grandfather of Milton Estes	16	(Tishri 5) Frances Sporn, mother of Sherry Sporn	29	Albert Stein, father of David Stein
10	(Elul 28) Frieda Fine Goldstein, mother of Bill Goldstein			30	Minnie Brill, mother of Leonard Brill

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

220 Danvers at Caselli San Francisco, California 94114

(415) 861-6932

## ***Education Committee New Fall Classes***

### **Beginning Prayerbook Hebrew • Tuesdays, starting Sept. 27 • 7:30 - 8:30 PM**

Join Rabbi Yoel Kahn for a fun and intensive class in beginning Hebrew reading. This 8 week class is open to those who have never studied the language before and is also an opportunity for anyone to brush up on their beginning reading skills. At the end of this class, students will be able to phonetically read any text in the prayer book.

### **Parashah: How to read the weekly Torah portion • Tuesdays, starting Sept. 27 • 8:45 PM**

This four session class will explore how to read a weekly Torah portion. We will use the new Reform commentary and also meet the classical and modern commentators on the Torah. Each participant will explore a particular portion that is of significance to her or him.

### **Jewish Spirituality • Tuesdays, starting Oct. 25 for four weeks • 8:45 PM**

What does Judaism teach about having a spiritual life? What about Jewish sources which are available to us to enhance our own spiritual selves? How can we deepen the spiritual content of our lives today? Prayer, meditation, mitzvot and other resources will be examined as sources of a Jewish spiritual life.

### **Israel - Speaker/Discussion series • Wednesdays • 7:30 PM**

This series of five (5) speaker/discussion sessions will center on Israel today and our relation to that republic. Exciting guest speakers will present material and lead discussions. ***This promises to be an exciting and thought provoking series:***

- October 12, 1988* • History of the Arab/Jewish conflict
- October 19, 1988* • Current Palestinian Uprising - Part 1
- October 26, 1988* • Current Palestinian Uprising - Part 2
- November 2, 1988* • Secular/Religious Relationships in Israel
- November 9, 1988* • Jewish Identity and the State of Israel

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***Please call the Synagogue office and reserve your place !!***

**(415) 861 - 6932**





Members of the Western Region of the  
World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations  
Cordially Invite You To

**SHARE ... CELEBRATE ... GROW**

**at the Second Western Regional Conference of Gay, Lesbian  
and Bisexual Jews**

***BE STRONG, BE STRONG AND TOGETHER  
WE WILL BE STRENGTHENED***

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**To be held October 7-9 (Columbus Day weekend) at Camp Sholom  
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Join together in a relaxing atmosphere of warm camaraderie with old and new friends; enjoy a fun-filled weekend of workshops, social activities, worship, recreation, and good food in a beautiful hillside setting.

**REGISTRATION FEE** – includes lodging, all activities, events, and meals from Friday's Shabbat dinner through Sunday's lunch and is between \$99 and \$125 for the entire weekend. Your registration kit will include information about early reservation discounts (available until August 23) and local transportation options.

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**For complete registration information send this form today.**

Mail To: Western Regional Conference (415) 861-6932  
c/o Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
220 Danvers Street  
San Francisco, CA 94114

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**SPACE IS LIMITED SO ACT NOW!**

